



CALFED  
BAY-DELTA  
PROGRAM

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July 12, 1996

Michael Spear, Regional Director  
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Eastside Federal Complex  
911 N.E. 11th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97232-4181

Dear Director <sup>Mike</sup>~~Spear~~.

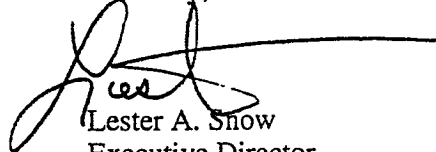
As an original signator of the Framework Agreement which created CALFED and lead to the acclaimed Bay-Delta Accord, you obviously know the power of a collaborative effort. We have attempted to keep that collaborative effort (state/federal/stakeholder) going in the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. While there is much difficult work to be completed in the next phase of our Program, we are optimistic that with agency and stakeholder participation we can develop a lasting solution.

As we near the end of Phase I one of the more significant conclusions is the widespread acceptance of large-scale ecosystem restoration as a component of all alternatives. This acceptance has also been manifest in the progress of SB 900 which will place on the November ballot a bond measure which includes over \$500 million for implementation of the ecosystem restoration program. This program support and potential early funding highlights the need for Fish and Wildlife Service involvement in designing the most complex ecosystem and restoration program (and MSHCP) ever undertaken. The Service will clearly have regulatory responsibilities which must be fulfilled, however, it is also imperative the Service provide vision and creativity necessary for a successful ecosystem restoration.

This program is not just another project to be squeezed into full schedules. It is an opportunity to do business differently on a large scale. I would like to meet with you to discuss how we can best integrate the Service's local, regional and national experiences and expertise on ecosystem restoration into our Program.

I will call to arrange a meeting.

Sincerely,



Lester A. Snow  
Executive Director

cc Wayne White  
Dale Hall

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CALFED Agencies

California

The Resources Agency  
Department of Fish and Game  
Department of Water Resources  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal

Environmental Protection Agency  
Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Department of Commerce

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